

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 204/04008WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/IB2004/050461	International filing date (day/month/year) 15.04.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 16.04.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC		
Applicant AHC OBERFLÄCHENTECHNIK GMBH & CO. OHG		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: a. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows: <input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/IB2004/050461

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1-19 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- nos. 1-24 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- sheets 1/2-2/2 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	2, 5-8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 18-23	YES
	Claims	1, 3, 4, 9, 12, 13, 16, 17, 24	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-24	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-24	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

- 1 This report makes reference to the following documents:
- D1: US 2003/031803 A1 (BELOUET CHRISTIAN ET AL) 13 February 2003
- D2: US-A-5 599 592 (LAUDE LUCIEN D) 4 February 1997
- 2 D1 discloses (the reference signs in parentheses refer to D1): the use, as an electronic component (page 1, fourth paragraph, claim 1), of an object, the surface of which entirely or partially comprises a composite material made of a non-metallic substrate which contains at least one polymer and a metal layer deposited thereon that has an adherence of at least 4N/mm^2 (page 3, paragraph 44) but does not have an external current supply.
- D2 also discloses the use of an object like that in D1 (claim 1, column 3, lines 53-54).

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
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2.1 INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1

Therefore, D1 discloses all of the features disclosed in combination in independent claim 1. The same line of reasoning applies to independent claim 1 and D2. Consequently, the subject matter of this claim lacks novelty (PCT Article 33(2)).

3 DEPENDENT CLAIMS 2-24

Claims 2-24 contain no features that, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step; see D1, D2, the other documents cited in the search report, and the corresponding text passages.

Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

1. The application does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 6, because claim 1 lacks clarity.
2. The comparative example (page 17) is indicated as being "not in accordance with the invention", but the product in this example corresponds to all of the features indicated in claim 1.
3. The description indicates on page 15 (example) that the following feature, in comparison with the comparative example on page 17, is essential for the definition of the invention: treatment in an ultrasound bath with a mixture of deionized water and butyl glycol. Since the independent claim 1 does not contain this feature, it does not meet the requirement of PCT Article 6 in conjunction with PCT Rule 6.3(b) that every independent claim shall contain all of the technical features that are essential for the definition of the invention.